

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Initially, an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) in conformity with requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97-1.98 was filed on November 27, 2006. The reference cited on line AO of this IDS has not yet been acknowledged or made of record by the Examiner. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the reference cited on line AO of the IDS filed on November 27, 2006 be acknowledged and that the Examiner send a copy of the initialed PTO Form-1449 to the undersigned.

Claims 26-30 are pending in the present application, Claims 1-25 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and Claims 26-30 having been added. Support for new Claims 26-30 is found, for example, in original Claims 8, 13, 18, 19, and 25. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added.

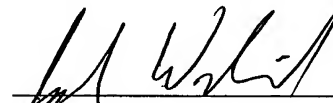
In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-7, 9-12, 14-17, 20, 23, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as unpatentable over Carr et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0094848); and Claims 8, 13, 18, 19, and 25 were objected to for depending from a rejected base claim, but were otherwise indicated as including allowable subject matter.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. In light of this indication, Claims 1-25 are canceled, and new Claims 26-30 are presented. Claims 26-30 correspond to allowable Claims 8, 13, 18, 19, and 25, respectively. Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 26-30 are in condition for allowance.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for formal allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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